

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 DAMASC 01971 071427Z  
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W  
-----039937 071430Z /72

O R 071343Z APR 78  
FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7542  
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN  
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT  
AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM  
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV  
USMISSION USUN NY

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAMASCUS 1971

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: MILI, IS, SY  
SUBJECT: SYRIA PROTESTS ALLEGED ISRAELI VIOLATION OF DISENGAGEMENT  
AGREEMENT

REF: STATE 87478

1. THERE HAVE BEEN TWO MEDIA FOLLOW-UPS TO INITIAL SANA  
REPORT OF MINE EXPLOSION AND SARG PROTEST TO UNDOF. APRIL  
4 PRESS QUOTED AFP THAT UN UNDER SECRETARY GENERAL  
URQUHART HAD INSTRUCTED UNDOF COMMANDER PHILLIP TO CONDUCT  
AN URGENT INVESTIGATION INTO THE INCIDENT. APRIL 7 TISHRIIN  
CONTAINED NO DOUBT OFFICIALLY INSPIRED COLUMN BY JIBRAN  
KOURIYYE ENTITLED "A STATE OF CRIMINALITY, AGGRESSION  
AND LAWLESSNESS." ARTICLE OPENED "THE CRIME ISRAEL PERPETRATED  
A FEW DAYS AGO BY PLANTING MINES INSIDE SYRIAN TERRITORY IS  
A SERIOUS PROVOCATION BY ISRAEL AT DELICATE POINT IN DEVELOP-  
MENT OF ME SITUATION A PROVOCATION THAT INCREASES  
TENSION AND REVEALS ONCE AGAIN THE REAL NATURE OF ISRAEL  
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AS A CRIMINAL, AGGRESSIVE AND LAWLESS STATE." ARTICLE  
PLACES THIS ALLEGED ISRAELI ACTION IN FRAMEWORK OF  
EFFORTS TO EMBROIL SYRIA IN WAR. BUT, WRITER ASSERTS,  
"SYRIA CANNOT BE PROVOKED AND DRAWN INTO SITUATION NOT  
IN ACCORD WITH ITS OWN STRATEGIC AND TACTICAL PLANS."

2. MEANWHILE, VERSION OF INCIDENT WITH GREATEST LOCAL

CURRENCY, SUPPOSEDLY BASED ON REPORTS OF TECHNICIAN WHO WAS PRESENT, IS THAT BOOBY-TRAPPED ELECTRONIC DEVICE CAUSED EXPLOSION. DEVICE WAS REPORTEDLY PLANTED TO MONITOR CONVERSATIONS ON MILITARY LAND-LINE BETWEEN DAMASCUS AND AMMAN. DEVICE WAS OF SUCH SOPHISTICATION THAT IT PERMITTED MONITORING WITHOUT CUTTING COAXIAL CABLE OR DID SO IN SUCH A WAY THAT CABLE SECURITY DEVICES DID NOT DETECT BREACH.

3. CHARGE COMMENT: HAVE REQUESTED APPOINTMENT WITH DEP FONMIN QADDUR TO CARRY OUT INSTRUCTIONS STATE 87478. IF IT TURNS OUT THAT AN ISRAELI IMPLANTED ELECTRONIC DEVICE, WHETHER SENSOR OR PORTABLE TRANSMITTER, WAS INDEED THE SOURCE OF THE EXPLOSION (AND THAT SEEMS TO BE THE MOST PLAUSIBLE AND WIDELY BELIEVED EXPLANATION IN DAMASCUS) WE RISK BEING CONSIDERED PARTNERS IN WEIZMAN'S POSSIBLY DECEPTIVE DENIAL OF IDF INVOLVEMENT IN INCIDENT THROUGH THIS DEMARCHE. I PLAN TO KEEP THIS PART OF APPROACH AS LOW KEY AS POSSIBLE. WE WILL ALSO BE IN TOUCH WITH PHILLIP WHEN HE RETURNS FROM JERUSALEM.  
PELLETREAU

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ARMISTICE, POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, VIOLATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 07 apr 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978DAMASC01971  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780150-0913  
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**Review Event:**  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
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**SAS ID:** 3045002  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** SYRIA PROTESTS ALLEGED ISRAELI VIOLATION OF DISENGAGEMENT AGREEMENT  
**TAGS:** MILI, MOPS, PGOV, IS, SY  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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